



PAARAGraphs

Celebrating 61 years as an *active* ham radio club—*Since 1937*
Newsletter for the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.



CALENDAR

Nov.....6, PAARA Meeting, 7:30
Menlo Park Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

Nov.....11, PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30
Red Cross Bld., 400 Mitchell Ln., Palo Alto

Nov.....14, PAARA Auction & Flea Market, 9:30 AM
American Legion Hall,
651 El Camino Real, Redwood City

Dec.....4, PAARA Meeting, 7:30

Dec.....9, PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30



MESSAGE FROM THE VEEP

Dave Bailey (WS6W),
Vice-President & Program Chairperson

The speaker at our October 2 meeting was "QRP Bob" (KD6VIO), who is CEO, CFO, etc., of **Wilderness Radio**. Bob talked about his involvement in QRP (which, for you non-hams, is low-power operation) and showed some of the more popular QRP rigs. I met Bob at the NorCal QRP meeting. For those of you who are interested in QRP (like me), the meetings are on the first Sunday of the month (holiday weekend or not) at the California Burger on Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton.

Our Autumn Auction will be on Saturday, November 14, 1998, at the American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, Redwood City. This is the same location where we hold the license exams. In addition to the auction, we will have about \$300 worth of raffle prizes- including a new handie-talkie. Please show up and bring one box of equipment to sell at the PAARA table and a handcart if you have one.

The same weekend, from November 13-15, the estate sale of Sy Stein (WA6ROM-SK), will be held at his QTH at 13080 Lorene Court in Mountain View. More details will be given later.

Be sure to check in to the Monday Night Net at 8:30 p.m. on the W6APZ repeater(145.23 MHz) to hear all latest information. Anyone who checks into the net at least 20 times in 1998 will receive an operating award. Last month, **Jon (AD6FX)**, **Wally (K6EURO)**, **Len (WA6HLE)**, **Gerry (WA6LNV)**, and **Ron (KQ6RS)** won operating awards. I am also taking sign-ups for other net control stations, so contact me if you are interested in running the net from time to time.

It's time to begin selecting officers for next year. Contact me if you or someone you know wants to be an officer or Board member.

Our next club meeting will be on November 6. **Kitty Hevener (WB8TDA)**, whom I know from FARS, will speak about amateur radio operators with disabilities. Being blind, she knows about this firsthand. Please show up and give Kitty your full support. 73 **Dave Bailey (WS6W)**,



PROGRAM

November 6, 1998
7:30 P.M.

Speaker:

Kitty Hevener (WB8TDA),

"Amateur Radio Operators with Disabilities"

PAARA Radio NET every Monday evening at 8:30 P.M., local time
on the 145.230 -600 MHz repeater, PL tone off

Miscellaneous Dates

Flea Market at Foothill (info at: <http://joslin.com/FleaMarket>)
 Oct. 10 Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club (EMARC)

PAARA Auction & Flea Market

November 14, 9:30 AM,
 American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, Redwood City

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association
 meets 1st Friday 7:30 each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30,
 contact: Dave Bailey, WS6W 408 730 5215

EMARC Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club
 meets 4th Friday 7:30 each month,
 contact: Sheldon Edelman 650-858-2176, Edelman@richochet.net

NCDXC Northern California DX Club
 meets 2nd Friday 7:30 each month, repeater for member info 147.360, Thur
 8:00PM, contact: Bob Mammarella KB6FEC 408 729 1544.

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club
 meets 1st Sunday each month,
 contact: Jim Cates 3241 Eastwood Rd., Sacramento, CA 95821.

Perham Foundation,
 contact: Jerry Tucker WAGLNV 650-961-3266

SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System
 meets each Monday 8:00PM on Net 145.27, 224.36, 440.80 MHz
 contact: Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, 408-243-6745 or 408-249-6909.

SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service
 meets 3rd Thursday 7:30 each month, San Carlos City Hall.
 Net is on 144.45 & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.
 contact: Dick Collins K6ANN 650-593-8952

SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association
 Operates W6UU repeater 146.385+ Nets: 2m, W6UU, 7:30 Mon; 10m,
 28.385, 8:00 Thur. meets 2nd Mon each month.
 contact: Jack Ruckman AC6FU

SVECS Silicon Valley Emergency Communications
 Operates WB6ADZ repeater (146.115 MHz+)
 contact: Lou Stierer WA6QYS 408 241 7999

WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association
 operates W6PIY repeater 147.39+, 223.96, 441.875, 1286.2
 meets 3rd Wed every month.
 contact: Glen Lokke Jr. KE6NBO at 408 971 8626, or glokke@pacbell.net

Disaster Services

PALO ALTO CHAPTER, American Red Cross
 Meets 3rd Wed. each month 7:30PM,
 HF, packet, BBS, ATV, OSCAR Gateway, NASA satellite,
 contact: Alan Ball 650-688-0423.

SAN JOSE CHAPTER, American Red Cross
 contact: Scott Hensley KB6UOO, 408 249 7093, sh@richochet.net

VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 11AM, 145.23- PL=100Hz
 American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, R.C.
 contact: Joe KB6OWG.

Bring a Show & Tell
 to the next
PAARA meeting

PAARA MONDAY NIGHT NET

8:30 PM 145.230-600 MHz repeater

PL tone off

Latest news between monthly issues of PAARAGraph

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc. PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

President.....(vacant)
 Vice President.....Dave Bailey, WS6W.....(408) 730 5215
 Secretary.....Andreas Junge KF6NEB.....(650) 233 0843
 Treasurer.....Doug Schliebus, K1DIT.....(650) 851 0727
 Trustee/Property/Badges.....Fred Canham, K6YT.....(650) 948 9238
 ARES Officer.....Lily Anne Hillis, N6PGM.....(650) 325 5484
 Club Historian.....Steve Stuntz, K6FS.....(650) 322 4952
 Advertising.....Bob Korte, KD6KYT.....(650) 595 1842
 Webmaster.....Andreas Junge KF6NEB.....(650) 233 0843

Board of Directors

Charles Grandjean, WD6FAF (408) 739 5185 '98
 John Buonocore, KD6ZL (650) 366 1658 '99
 Terry Conboy, N6RY (510) 944 5388 '99
 Steve Stuntz, K6FS (650) 322 4952 '99
 Vic Black, AB6SO, (650) 366 0636 Past Pres
 (see "Calendar" for Board meeting times, visitors welcome)

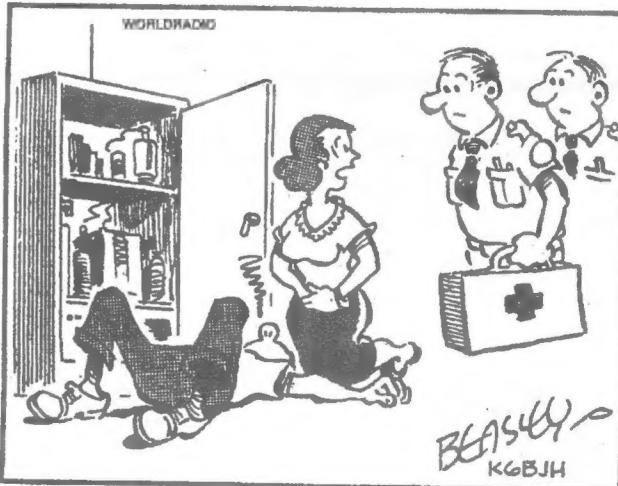
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PAARAGraphs e-mail address: wmporter@aol.com

Submit material for PAARAGraphs by the 15th

PAARA Website <http://www.qsl.net/paara/index.html>



SORRY TO CALL YOU BACK SO SOON, BUT
 HAROLD WAS SHOWING A FRIEND HOW HE WORKED
 AROUND THE SAFETY INTERLOCK THE FIRST TIME

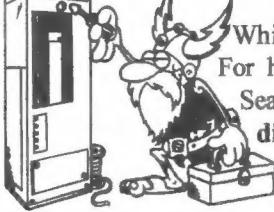
Notice

Included in this issue of PAARAGraphs is a copy of the PAARA By-Laws (page 97) and Articles of Incorporation (page 98). Please save them for a future meeting. The Board has discussed possible revision. The present thought is to let the new Board and officers make any recommendations. Make your suggestions to Board members or officers now.

Election time is near. Volunteer to be an officer or board member. Your turn to help is NOW.

WEB WANDERINGS

de Vic Black, AB6SO



Which Internet search engine is the best? For hams the answer may be HamRadio Search Engine maintained by **Rafaello di Martino** at <http://www.iw7chv.org>. The site allows you to type in topics much like any other search engine, but it specializes in ham radio only with over 10,000 links. Try it. You'll like it.

New freeware will make it easier to document malicious jamming. Programmer **Richard Rager KB8RLN** offers software for free download at http://www.axom.com/kb8rln/xmit_id.html which records and catalogs the unique fingerprint of every FM transmitter. XMIT_ID will help locate stolen transceivers, identify jammers on repeaters and locate transmitter spurs. Hardware requirements are a 9600 baud packet ready radio, 386 or better computer, DOS 5.0-6.22, VGA monitor, 1 Meg of memory and a sound card (an 8 bit Sound Blaster works best). It can be made to work on Windows 95, but was designed for a "plain Jane" system. The software records the radio's discriminator audio fingerprint, then time and date stamps the transmissions. Information is stored for future comparison against a particular radio. **Richard's** web page links to radio direction finding in addition to the software.

There are a couple of interesting African DXpeditions to watch for in November. Sixteen operators (plus some mystery guest operators) from the US, Japan, Spain, Italy, Czech Republic and Slovenia will converge on Eritrea in East Africa to operate from Nov 5 through Nov 18. They will operate 4 stations, 24 hours per day. This is a major effort with large sponsorship. They will operate SSB and CW on all bands 160 through 6 meters except 30 meters (not allowed in Eritrea). In addition, they will operate RTTY on 10, 15 and 20 meters. For updates, go to http://members.xoom.com/eritrea_e3plans1.htm.

From Oct 26 through Nov 7 look for a more modest effort by Swiss Hams **Martin Ghermi HB9CYN** and **Chris Zeller HB9CYV** operating as S92YN and S92YV from Sao Tome e Principe off the west coast of Africa. More details & logs at <http://ab5eh-lin.tamucc.edu/~hb9cyn/Saotome.html>. They will operate SSB and CW on 75 through 10 meters (CW only on 30 meters).

As we approach the next winter season, it's a good idea to start thinking about emergency preparedness. We may be in for a very mild, dry, warm winter or we may get another wet one similar to last year. For some excellent information about emergency preparedness, try the web site of **Ralph Winchell N8UT** of Bridgeport, MI. Go to <http://www.area-ham.org/library/libindex.html>. You'll find thousands of links here. **Ralph** states that his Amateur Radio Reference Library "is the only known site with a major concentration of education and training materials for emergency/public services and regular

Amateur Radio topics." Major classifications of emergency information include:

Emergency operations and communications training section, Disaster causes, Emergency management and Search & Rescue.

Gray line propagation will become more important as winter approaches. As the earth rotates on its axis the sun shines on one side while the other side is in darkness. The part that is in sunlight receives radiation from the sun which ionizes the high level F-layer of the ionosphere. The F-layer refracts signals on the higher HF bands such as 20 meters through 10 meters causing signals to bend back to earth, hopefully at a rare DX location.

Meanwhile, the lower D-layer also becomes energized during daylight, but it absorbs signals on the longer wavelength lower HF bands, 160 meters through 30 meters. This explains why propagation is better on the lower bands at night while the higher bands are better during daylight hours.

A peculiar anomaly occurs right at the edge between daylight and darkness. D-layer ionization builds up slowly at sunrise and drops off again slowly at dusk. At those times low band signals can refract off the developing or trailing edge of the D-layer on up to the higher F-layer where they are either refracted back to earth or experience a chordal hop to another part of the F-layer and then back to earth. The actual signal path is in darkness along the so-called "gray line", or penumbra, between dark and light. Longer distances can be covered during the gray line period.

Folkert Geurink PA3CQR has a nice real-time gray line program available at <http://irian1.iri.tudelft.nl/users/pa3cqr/gayline.html>. A color representation using satellite images of the earth is available at <http://www.fourmilab.ch/cgi-bin/uncgi/Earth/action?opt=-p>. For a monochrome representation of the gray line, go to <http://www.spiritweb.org/cgi/sunclock.cgi>. Finally, if you have no computer, or a computer but no web access, try the slide-rule type device DX Edge by Xantek. It's advertised in magazines mail order for less than \$20. I find it's handy to have when operating portable away from my computer.

All of these depict a map of the earth with the areas of daylight and darkness clearly shown bordering the gray line. When your position lies along the gray line, your signal will be enhanced to any other part of the earth which also lies along the gray line. Gray line paths follow the sun so the paths work on east-west, northeast-southwest and southeast-northwest paths. There are no north-south gray line effects. The increase in signal strength can be very dramatic along the gray line.

When you start planning for next year's ham activities, you'll need a calendar. Go to the Virtual Perpetual Calendars site located at http://www.mnsinc.com/utopia/Calendar/Virtual_Calendars.html. Click on 20th and 21st Centuries. Then look for the year you want in the table and click on it.:-).

—Vic, AB6SO

Violence in the voice is often only the death rattle of reason in the throat.

—John F. Boyes



PROGRAM NOTES

PAARA Program,

October 2 1998

—Steve Stuntz, K6FS

Guest speaker was:

Robert "QRP Bob" Dyer, KD6VIO, manager and chief engineer of Wilderness Radio, specializing in the design and manufacture of kits and assembled low-power ("QRP") transmitters, receivers and transceivers for the amateur bands.

An analytical chemist for twenty years, and a ham "for almost five years", Bob opened by tracing the rise of his own interest in low-power amateur radio communication, starting from a crucial decision to change careers. Recollecting the discovery, at age 14, of short-wave radio as an SWL equipped with a Knight Kit Ocean Hopper II, he detailed the tortuous vicissitudes leading to his present status, colorfully describing the evolution of solid-state QRP in this last decade of the century.

As a starting point, Bob called urgent attention to the book "The Joy of QRP" by Adrian Weiss, noting the author's enthusiastic and informative treatment of the subject. This started Bob on a long, tortuous journey into first, determining to work all states (WAS) and then one hundred countries (DXCC).

His interests grew and broadened into home-brewing simple (i.e. low-cost), single-band QRP transmitters, using solid-state technology. For illustration, he held up the very first of his creations: crystal-controlled 40-meter CW transmitter, using a single transistor, transmitting 30 to 50 milliwatts of RF.

Spurred by successes with this first shot, and enlightened by further study of Weiss' "Joy" book, Bob started to design and build increasingly sophisticated transmitters for other bands and higher power-levels, and antennas to give world notice of their existence. Side-note: according to his experience, quarter-wave verticals, with a maximum number of radials, work very well - "four radials ain't near enough".

How Bob got the handle "QRP Bob": two ham friends, **Larry Moore, Bob's DX elmer, and Wes, AA6WH (SK)**, talking about him and some other hams including another Bob or two, on the moment's spur could only come up with "you know - QRP Bobs", and that off-hand rubric stuck and became a. whole new identity.

Increasing involvement in home-brewing, and ultimate growth into professional design and production of QRP kits, grew out of a chance contact with **Doug Hendricks**, sparkplug and co-founder of the Northern California QRP Club now numbering over 2,000 members.

From this acquaintance and subsequent encounters with **Wayne Burdick (N6KR)**, there grew in the NorCal QRP Club a series of projects designing and assembling QRP transmitters; of an introductory model, called the 40-A, the Club sold about 400. One thing leading to another, about six months later NorCal brought forth a kit for a rig called the Sierra, a 9-band palm-of-the-hand sized transmitter using

plug-in modules to change bands, Bob was given the job of assembling and shipping these kits, for a modest sub-professional compensation. Out of this beginning, in collaboration with Wayne and others, was born **Wilderness Radio**, specializing in QRP kit design. The company - now over three years old - has matured to the point of producing a kit called SST - a 2-watt VXO-controlled transceiver, which has evidently been very popular.

Summarizing, Bob noted that building HF lower-power transmitter or transceiver kits can be a very effective way of stimulating the interest and curiosity for further growth among new hams, recognizing that the population of mature operators is dwindling due to age. Via QRP kit building and operating, at comparatively minuscule costs represented by Wilderness' products, Bob argues, can and should appeal to newcomers

-30-

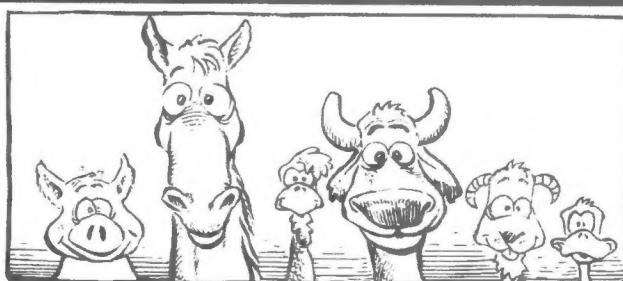


VE

.VE were given this month at the Sequoia Yacht Club in Redwood City. The logistics were beautifully handled by Al & Wendy Montoya of the PAARA. 26 applicants were given a Saturday

schooling by Al in the necessary information for passing the technician and novice tests. Sunday, the VE tests were given after a very fine lunch served by the Yacht Club. On hand to administer the tests were **Dan Curry WB6STW, Gilbert Thomas KN6BQ, Al Montoya WB6IMX, Bill Sooman WB6UVO, & Ron Panton W6VG**. No CW tests were scheduled for this VE session, and there will be no VE session in October due to the Pacificon Convention. The 26 applicants for the most part did very well, each taking both the novice & the technician tests. Our congratulations to Al and Wendy Montoya for a job well done.

—Ron, W6VG



Join us for pre-meeting eyeball
QSO November 6th

gab & gobble

6 pm— at Su Hong Restaurant
 1039 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
 —across from Kepler's Book Store—

BY-LAWS FOR THE REGULATION,
EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY STATUTE
OR ITS ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE I MEMBERS

(a) The members of this corporation shall be divided into two classifications, namely active members and associate members. An active member shall be any person holding a valid amateur radio operator's license. All other members shall be associate members. All members shall have full voting privileges, but only active members may hold office.

(b) Any prospective member may apply for membership at his/her first attended meeting. Applications for membership may be voted upon at their second attended meeting. A three fourths majority of the members present shall be required to elect an applicant to membership.

(c) Upon being elected to membership, the applicant shall pay dues at a rate set by the Board of Directors.

(d) Upon election and payment of dues, the applicants name shall be inscribed in the membership book. All dues shall become payable on January 1 for the ensuing year, and members elected to membership during the course of a year shall make a pro rata payment for the balance of the year.

(e) Any member who fails to pay dues for a period of three months shall, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, be dropped from the membership book of the corporation.

ARTICLE II CORPORATE POWERS

The corporate powers of this corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors, all of whom shall be members of this corporation in good standing. Three members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE III BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall consist of the president and four directors.

ARTICLE IV POWERS OF DIRECTORS

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the President or, in his/her absence, the Vice-President, on such notice as is determined by the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or Vice-President on twenty-four hours' notice to each director, either personally, by mail or by telephone. The Directors shall have the power:

- (a) to set the dues rate;
- (b) the Directors shall consider and report at each meeting all proposals for the benefit of the individual members or the general welfare of the corporation;
- (c) the Board of Directors shall adopt ways and means for the advancement of the corporation, designate work to be done between meetings of the corporation, audit all accounts for expenses, and direct the expenditure of funds of the corporation but not in excess of the amount held by the Treasurer.
- (d) to have general charge of all interests of the organization.

ARTICLE V DUTIES OF THE DIRECTORS

It shall be the duty of the Directors to keep complete records of all their meetings and acts, and make reports to the general membership.

ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF PRESIDENT

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the corporation and to preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. The President shall prepare a budget at the beginning of his/her term and a financial report at the end of the term.

The President shall request, on a regular basis, from the Treasurer, a list of income and expenses. It shall be the further duty of the President to appoint replacements of officers and directors not able to serve their term. Appointees shall serve until the next regularly scheduled election. Make all committee appointments.

ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF VICE-PRESIDENT

It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to assist the President and to perform all the duties of the President during his/her absence.

ARTICLE VIII DUTIES OF SECRETARY

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to receive all communications that may be addressed to the club or that may be submitted by the other officers of the club and to keep a full report of the proceedings of each meeting. The Secretary shall read all communications upon request of the President.

The Secretary shall maintain a book listing all members of the organization and shall perform such other duties as may be required by the club.

The Secretary shall also promptly deliver up all books, paper, or other property of the corporation to his/her successor in office, or whomsoever the club may appoint.

ARTICLE IX DUTIES OF TREASURER

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all dues and moneys belonging to the club and pay all orders drawn by the Board of Directors and approved by the President.

ARTICLE X ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TERM OF OFFICE

The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a period of one year and two directors shall be elected for a period of two years at the annual meeting in November and to serve the next calendar year.

In September of each year the president shall appoint three persons to serve as a nominating committee. The committee will select and interview a slate of nominees for officers and directors seats.

The slate of nominees will be introduced at the October general meeting. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at this time, after which nominations will be closed. No person may be nominated without the nominees willing acceptance. The election will be held at the December regular meeting. The Secretary will report the election results as the last order of business. The nominating committee is disbanded at this time.

ARTICLE XI OFFICIAL STATION TRUSTEE

The Trustee of the club station license, call sign W6OTX, shall be a member in good standing. The Trustee shall be selected by the Board of Directors and serve an indefinite term. The Trustee shall have a valid operators license either Extra or Advanced Class and be responsible for the timely renewal and maintenance of the station license.

ARTICLE XII BYLAW AMENDMENT

The Bylaws of the corporation may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the membership in attendance after due notice as provided herein. Proposals for amendment shall be submitted in writing at a regular meeting of the corporation. Motion to amend the Bylaws of the corporation made at any regular meeting shall be mailed to each member at least fifteen days prior to the next regular meeting, at which time a vote will be taken. Votes of absentee members may be exercised by written proxy.

ARTICLE XIII ORDER

In any question coming before a meeting for which no provision has been made in the articles of incorporation and by-laws, the officer presiding over the meeting shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order."

PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
(PAARA)

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greetings:

I, FRANK M. JORDAN, Secretary of State of the State of California, hereby certify:

That the annexed transcript has been compared with the RECORD on file in my office, of which it purports to be a copy, and that the same is full, true and correct.

Seal

In testimony whereof, I, FRANK M. JORDAN, Secretary of State, have hereunto caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed and my name subscribed, at the City of Sacramento, in the State of California, this 2nd day of March 1956.

S/ Frank M. Jordon

316870

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC

We, the undersigned, have this date voluntarily associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under the laws of the State of California and we do hereby certify:

One: The name of this corporation is: Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Two: The specific and primary purposes for which this corporation is formed are:

- (a) For scientific and educational purposes;
- (b) To foster better friendship and closer cooperation between amateur radio operators living in the vicinity of Palo Alto;
- (c) To elevate the standards of amateur equipment and operation;
- (d) To secure the benefits of social and educational contacts from the members;
- (e) To aid the Federal Communications Commission in the giving of license examinations, in enforcement of laws and regulations with respect to amateur radio operation, and to aid in the investigation and suppression of television and radio interference;
- (f) To cooperate fully with Federal, State and local officials in the maintenance of emergency communications and particularly in the establishment of civil defense communications;
- (g) To receive gifts and requests; to own, control, buy, lease, rent, sell, acquire, hold, convey, mortgage, hypothecate, and otherwise deal with or dispose of personal property, particularly, but not limited to, radio communication equipment;
- (h) Do each and everything necessary, or suitable, or proper for the accomplishment of the purposes or the attainment of any one or any of the subjects herein enumerated or conductive to or expedient for the interest or benefit of said corporation and to contract accordingly; and in addition exercise all powers, rights, and privileges necessary or incidental to the purpose for which said corporation is organized, or the activities in which it is engaged. If at any time this corporation should be dissolved or its corporate existence should cease, or its charter should be revoked, no part of its funds or property shall be distributed to or shall inure to the benefit of any member or other individual, but after payment of all indebtedness of the corporation, its remaining funds shall be distributed by the Board of Directors for the furthering of scientific and educational purposes in the field of amateur radio communications.

Three: That this corporation is organized pursuant to the General Non-Profit Corporation Law of the State of California.

Four: The county and state of California where the principal office for transaction of business of this corporation is to be located is Santa Clara County.

Five: This corporation is formed as a corporation not for profit to the members thereof.

Six: (intentionally omitted)

Seven: Number, classification and term of officers established by bylaws.



PAARA PONDERINGS

de VIC BLACK, AB6SO

PAARA member Al Montoya

WB6IMX taught a new ham class Oct. 4 with great results. By the end of the two day session he had one Tech Plus upgrade and 15 new Technician hams, mostly from the boating community. Every new ham is a major asset to our hobby. As we grow, the technical base grows and the cost of equipment decreases. Imagine how fast ham radio would grow if every ham recruited two others. Congratulations and thanks to Al for the fine job.

We just received a short notice that Dennis Freeman has been issued a new vanity callsign. Say good bye to KF6OHO and hello to K6YLN, his original callsign from the 50's-60's.

Certificates are still being earned for checking into the weekly Monday night PAARA Net. To qualify, you only need to check in 20 or more times during the calendar year. Qualifiers this month include:

Jon Zweig AD6FX, Wally Porter K6URO, Len Schumacher WA6HLE, Gerry Tucker WA6LNV and Ron Carmichael KQ6RS.

A year later, requests are still arriving for certificates from PAARA's 60th Anniversary Special Event Station Nov. 8/9, 1997. The latest awards went to: KI6XE, JA2BNN, JR7DXE, JR7WAB, JH8DBJ, JA7EID, JI1KYQ, JA4EKO and JF1SEK.

During last winter's severe storms and floods over 135 people stated that the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services saved their lives in more than 35 separate rescue operations in the first week of February alone. Much of the work depended heavily on trained volunteers. On Oct. 8, San Mateo County Sheriff Don Horsley hosted a Volunteer Recognition Dinner to honor public service volunteers. PAARA was represented at the dinner by volunteer communicators Dan Curry WB6STW and Vic Black AB6SO.

The annual winter increase in high band activity is starting up in tandem with the upslope of the sunspot cycle. Steve Stuntz K6FS reports receiving confirmation of his 280th country and 45th country QRP running 5 watts SSB on 20 meters. Dave Rice W6NUC reports working a few new countries each day from his mobile rig during lunch. Dave now has 5 Band Worked All States (WAS) mobile.

Pacificon was a big success again this year. ARRL President Rod Stafford W6ROD stated that Pacificon was the only ARRL Convention to experience an increase in attendance over last year. PAARA was represented by many members, some of whom had never attended before. The technical sessions were a mixed bag. Some were top notch and others lacked somewhat in the delivery, as usual. By and large,

though, the quality of the forums is improving from year to year.

The Norcal QRP club flew in speakers from as far away as Europe. Consequently, the QRP forums were the strongest entries from a technical standpoint. The club also gave away a bound 135 page Compendium of the QRP technical talks to the first 200 attendees at the first QRP forum. In addition, they provided a free six-pack of PC boards for six home-brew projects, the subject of a technical talk by Rev. George Dobbs G3RJV of the G-QRP club in England.

Terry Conboy N6RY was the big Pacificon winner from PAARA. Terry stopped by the Elecraft booth to check out the new K2 transceiver and entered the drawing for a K2. When the winning ticket was drawn on Saturday night, Terry was the happy winner. Congratulations to Terry. Wayne Burdick N6KR and Eric Swartz WA6HHQ announced the formation of their new Elecraft company at last year's Pacificon.

It was their intent to make high performance kits to compete head on with commercially made Japanese radios. The result is the K2, a new microprocessor controlled, multiband, modular and expandable CW/SSB transceiver. The first model is in kit form and that is what Terry won. Within a year the company expects to have a factory built model using surface mount components for those who don't want to build their own.

Remember, the Annual PAARA Autumn Auction and Flea Market will be Saturday, November 14 at the American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, Redwood City. Admission is \$3 and includes free coffee. Vendor spaces are \$15 each. This is one of your club's major money makers for the year. It's also a chance to get some great bargains by "bottom feeding" as Les Zweibel WB6ORZ likes to call it. If you have some "stuff" you don't want, consider donating it to the PAARA table at the swap meet. PAARA's table is consistently one of the most popular at the event.

Your Officers' Nominating Committee is once again looking for club officers and board member candidates for the 1999 calendar year. Responsibilities include one board meeting each month in addition to the duties of the individual offices. If you are interested in one of the positions don't hesitate to contact Dave Bailey WS6W. You can talk to him at a club meeting or on the Monday night net where he's the Net Control Operator. ☺☺☺

My view is that to sit back and let fate play its hand out and never influence it is not the way man was meant to operate.

—John Glenn

Want an active club?

Be
ACTIVE

SNOWMEN & SLEIGH RIDES

- December 3 -

Have Fun & Provide a Public Service

On Thursday evening, December 3, the City of Palo Alto will have its annual Snowmen and Sleigh Rides event, to which the whole community is invited. In past years, several tons of snow have been dumped on the street (Hamilton Ave) in front of Palo Alto's city hall. At the designated signal, all the kids (and sometimes grownups) plunge into the snow to play. If you have young children, they will enjoy the snow.

While this is going on, about six or seven horse-drawn sleighs make their way through the downtown area, giving people rides along the route. Downtown stores and eateries are open and a festive time is had by all.

The 523 repeater will be used that evening from about 4:30 to 6:30 PM to provide talk-in for the hams who will be covering this event. Please keep this in mind when using the repeater on Dec. 3. After 6:30 PM, event communications will switch to a simplex frequency.

When I last participated in this event, one ham was assigned to ride "shot-gun" on each sleigh. All hams who wished had a turn to ride while providing communications for the driver. Some hams provided health and welfare communications, helped find lost children, etc.

If you are interested in helping provide communications for this event, call **KD6LHO**, Gordon Baillie, at 650-691-1200 during working hours. If he is not there when you call, state that the message is for Gordon, and leave your name, phone number, and call sign on the answering machine.

—Rich, W6APZ



PAARA WEB SITE

check it out

<http://www.qsl.net/paara/>
 webmaster: Andreas Junge KF6NEB

1952

1998

Paara Autumn Auction & Fleamarket

American Legion Hall, Redwood City.
 651 El Camino Real
 1 Block south of Whipple Ave.

Saturday 11/14/98

Doors open 8:00am, Auction 9:30am – 2:00pm

WIN a 2m HT

(\$300 in raffle prizes)

Admission \$3.00 (free coffee included)
 Tables \$15.00 (Includes admission and free coffee)



Talk in 145.23 (-) PL 100



WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHAT IS IT?" IT'S A GROUND ROD, YOU IDIOT!—YOU SET ME UP, A BRANCH OFFICE RIGHT UNDER SOME HAM!

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, California 94026-0911

Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm at the Menlo Park Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA. • Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230-600 MHz repeater, PL tone off. • Membership in PAARA is \$12.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAGraphs, \$6 for additional family members (no newsletter). • Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association.

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PAARA Since 1937

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(short personal ads remain free for members in good standing).

All ad rates listed are per issue only.

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2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover.

These fees may be reduced or waived in exchange for a valuable consideration that is given to the Association or its general membership. Such consideration must be in addition to any existing arrangements with the association.

The PAARAGraphs editors reserve the right to reject any ad deemed to be not in the best interest of the Association. All fees are for "scanner-ready" copy or text-only ads.

DONATE YOUR

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AT THE
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&
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NOVEMBER 14

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605 SPAR DRIVE
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CA 94065

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(408) 534-4285
V.M.Pager

RGK4U@aol.com



MICHAEL J. ALLISON
Principal Software Engineer

AHHA! Solutions
4429 Guilford Place
Livermore, CA 94550

510 447-5414
kn6zt@amsat.org



PAARA PRIDE
wear your
PAARA Badge

to
meetings, picnics, field days, winter parties, ham fests,
flea markets, Pacificons...
(if you need one, contact Fred, K6YT)

1 November 1998



Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
PAARAGraphs Newsletter
 P.O. Box 911
 Menlo Park, California 94026

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Celebrating 61 years as an active
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